

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are presented for examination. Claims 1 and 11 are in independent form. Claims 2-9 and 11-17 have been amended.

The drawings have been amended to ensure proper format and to conform them to the original specification. The changes to the drawings are as follows:

Figs. 1, 10 and 18: the labeling of the views has been corrected (in Fig. 1, “(a)” and “(b)” have been changed to --Fig. 1A-- and --Fig. 1B--, respectively, and “Fig. 1” has been deleted; Figs 10 and 18 have been amended in corresponding fashion);

Figs. 2 and 3: reference numeral --3a-- has been added (see the original specification, e.g., at page 11, line 18); and

Fig. 12: reference numeral “36b” has been changed to --36d-- (see the original specification, e.g., at page 33, line 7).

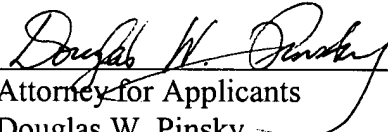
In addition, a substitute specification is submitted herewith to improve the form of the specification and to conform the specification to the drawings.

Support for the above changes can be found in the original specification, and therefore no new matter has been added.

Applicants request favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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